

1. Lomov inherited Oxen Meadows from –

- a) uncle and aunt
- b) parents
- c) sisters
- d) brothers.

Ans: a) uncle and aunt.

2. Nataliya wears a negligee ___ here ‘negligee’ refers to –

- a) a tight gown for wearing inside
- b) a loose gown for doing household work.
- c) an apron.
- d) a shirt.

Ans: b) a loose gown for doing household work.

3. The play “The Proposal” is –

- a) one-act play
- b) three-act play
- c) four-act play
- d) five-act play.

Ans: a) one-act play.

4. The worst of Lomov’s physical problems is –

- a) the way he sleeps
- b) his palpitations

c) his headache

d) his limp.

Ans: a) the way he sleeps.

5. Anton Chekhov was a famous –

a) American playwright

b) Russian playwright

c) Indian playwright

d) English playwright.

Ans: b) Russian playwright.

6. The play revolves around –

a) one character

b) two characters

c) three characters

d) four characters.

Ans: c) three characters.

7. Chubukov is Natalya's –

a) friend

b) father

c) brother

d) uncle.

Ans: b) father.

8. The first argument between Lomov and Natalya was over –

- a) land
- b) labour
- c) hunting dogs
- d) inheritance.

Ans: a) land.

9. Lomov calls Chubukov a 'Jesuit' because of his –

- a) stubbornness
- b) happiness
- c) timidity
- d) laziness.

Ans: a) stubbornness.

10. Chubukov warns Lomov to take the matter of oxen Meadows to –

- a) the court
- b) the Prime Minister
- c) the police
- d) the teacher.

Ans: a) the court.

Q. "She is like a love-sick cat." – Who said this about whom? Analyse the character of the person, referred to here, under the light of the comment above.

Ans. Chubukov said this about his daughter, Natalya.

Natalya was very eager to get married to Lomov. His father was right in his comment. After the quarrel, when Natalya came to know that Lomov had come to propose to her in marriage, she felt ill. She fell into an easy chair and started lamenting over the lost chance of marriage. She begged her father to bring him back. This extreme desperation of marriage to Lomov shows her love-sickness.

Q. Give a brief character sketch of Lomov.

Ans:-Lomov was a young, unmarried man of thirty five. He was anxious to get married as he had already reached a critical age. So he decided to propose a girl in the neighbourhood. Her name was Natalya, a girl of twenty-five years old. Lomov thought that she was a good housekeeper and was not bad looking. Further she was unmarried. Lomov was a funny character. He was suffering from palpitation. He behaved as if he were eccentric. He was so eager to marry Natalya. But when he came to propose to her, he started quarrelling over trifles. He quarreled on issues like Oxen Meadows and pet dogs named Squeezer and Guess. He even abused Natalya and her father Chubukov while quarreling.

Q. Give a brief character sketch of Natalya.

Ans:-Natalaya was a young unmarried girl of twenty five years. She lived in the neighbourhood of Lomov, a young unmarried man. She was an excellent housekeeper and was not bad looking. She was thirsting for love. Her father called her a lovesick cat. Lomov said that she was well educated, but she did not seem to be so. She was very quarrelsome and abusive by nature. She began a bitter quarrel with Lomov over a piece of land that had little value. She said that those meadows were not much worth to her but she could not stand unfairness. But when she learnt that Lomov had come to propose to her, she forgot all fairness and unfairness. She began to wail over the lost chance. She forced her father to call him back. But in no time, she started quarrelling with him again. It was on their dogs. Both claimed their respective dogs to be of a superior breed.

Q. What does Chubukov at first suspect that Lomov has come for? Is he

sincere when he later says “and I’ve always loved you, my angel, as if you were my own son”? Find reason for your answer from the play.

Ans:-Chubukov at first suspects that Lomov has come to borrow money. Chubukov is not sincere in saying this. After some minutes, Chubukov starts fighting with Lomov over petty matters. In fact, he sides with his daughter in fighting with Lomov. He even abuses Lomov calling him with bad names. This shows his insincerity in saying this flattering sentence.

Q.Chubukov says of Natalya : “...as if she won’t consent ! She is in love; egad, she is like a lovesick cat..” Would you agree? Find reason for your answer.

Ans:-Yes, Natalya is in love. This is clear in her behavior when she knows that Lomov came to propose to her. When she knows it, she starts weeping; she calls her father to bring him back at once. He has gone out after the quarrel. She becomes hysteric.

Q.Find all the words and expressions in the play that the characters used to speak about other, and accusations and insults they hurl at each other.

Ans:-Natalya calls Lomov ‘rascal’, ‘The monster’.

Chubukov calls him ‘the villain! The scarecrow!’, ‘that blind hen’, ‘turnip ghost’, ‘the stuffed sausage’, ‘the wizen-faced frump’, ‘malicious, double-faced intriguer’, ‘pup’, ‘old rat’, ‘Jesuit’, ‘milk soap’, ‘fool’.

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Chubukov calls Lomov’s father as ‘a guzzling gambler’.

Lomov calls Chubukov ‘intreguer’, Natalya’s mother as ‘hump-backed’, ‘back-bitters’, etc.

Chubukov calls Lomov as ‘my precious’.

Lomov calls Natalya as ‘an excellent house keeper, not bad looking, well educated’.

Q.State five adjectives or adjectival expressions of your own to describe each

character in the play.

Ans:-Adjectives or adjectival expressions that describe the characters in the play are as follows:

Ans:-Lomov: weak hearted bachelor, nervous , short tempered, quarrelsome, rigid.

Natalya: excellent housekeeper, good looking, well educated, sharp tongued, short tempered, rigid touchy and sensitive.

Chubukov: old, quarrelsome, uses funny abusive language (turnip ghost, stuffed sausage), intriguer, concerned father.

Q.How does Lomov come to Chubukov's house? What for does he come? How is he received?

Ans:-Lomov comes to Chubukov's house in the evening dress with gloves on. He comes to propose to his daughter Natalya. He is received with all the respect by Chubukov. It is clear by Chubukov's words like 'my angel', 'my dear fellow', 'my treasure'.

Q.How does Chubukov react when Lomov says that he has come to ask for the hand of his daughter?

Ans:-Chubukov is really glad to hear that Lomov has come to ask for Natalya's hand. He embraces and kisses Lomov. He has a tear or two in his eyes out of joy. He calls for God's blessing for Natalya and Lomov. He says he is off his balance with joy. He goes out to call for Natalya.

Q.Why did Lomov wants to get married?

Ans:-Lomov was 35 years old. It was high time that he should settle for a quiet and regular life. Moreover, he was suffering due to a weak heart and sleep-sickness. He wanted company and someone to look after him, so he wanted her to get married.

Q.What happens to Lomov when he is in an excited state?

Ans:-Lomov's heart beat increases. His lips tremble. There is twitch in his right eyebrow. The worst thing is the way he sleeps. When he goes to sleep, something pulls in his left side. It comes to his shoulder and head. He jumps like lunatic.

Q.How does Natalya excite Lomov to the point of verbal fighting?

Ans:-Natalya doesn't agree to the point that Oxen Meadows are not theirs. She

says that upto that she thought Lomov was a good neighbor. They lent him their threshing machine last year. They had to postpone their threshing till November. How was Lomov giving her his own land?

Q.How does Lomov react when Chubukov says that he is not used to misbehavior by young man like Lomov?

Ans:-Lomov reacts saying that Chubukov calls his land his own. Then he wants to be talked to calmly and politely. He says that good neighbours don't behave like that. He is now excited. He says that Chubukov is not a neighbour but a 'grabber'.

Q.Why does Natalya ask her father Chubukov to fetch Lomov in at once when they have fought verbally? How does she accuse her father?

Ans:-Actually Chubukov says that Lomov came to propose to Natalya for marriage. Natalya didn't know it. So she at once changes and asks her father to fetch Lomov in then. She also accuses Chubukov that he drove Lomov out.

Q.How do Lomov and Chubukov fight after talking about dogs, etc?

Ans:-Chubukov says that Lomov should sit at home with his heart beats. He is not at all a hunter. Lomov replies that he goes hunting to intrigue only. This starts their verbal fight. Lomov calls him an 'intriguer'. Chubukov calls him 'pup'. Lomov calls him 'old rat'. Chubukov calls him 'fool', etc.

Q.How is 'the Proposal' a great comedy?

Ans:-'The Proposal' is a great comedy. It is because of the characters and subject matter and how they behave. Natalya, Lomov and Chubukov fight over foolish things. All these create a lot of laughter. The verbal fights over Oxen Meadows and dogs are really full of humour.